

*Adams, Harkness & Hill, inc.*

MEMBER: NEW YORK, BOSTON AND AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGES

55 COURT STREET

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

May 3, 1979

Mr. Eric Newman  
P.O. Box 14020  
St. Louis, MO. 63178

Dear Mr. Newman,

I very much enjoyed our telephone conversation. Hopefully, one of your many interests will bring you to Boston before too much time goes by.

The Adams family is presently moving from one house in Dedham to another. Thus, I can fairly accurately quantify my numismatic library as being four full loads in a mid-sized station wagon. A complete set of "American State Papers" had gone on before, which is probably the only reason the shock absorbers are still operative.

My best duplicates include many of the standard references on large cents plus a broad selection of early catalogues, with special strength in Woodward, Cogan and Frossard. My needs are scattered but, with luck, I will locate a recently-constructed "Want List" and enclose it.

By bumbling around, I have managed to learn a fair amount about the accumulation and dispersal of many major cent collectors. However, there are large gaps in my knowledge concerning Maris, Ellsworth, B.H. Collins and Wurtzbach to name a few. Any sources you have on these gentlemen would be most welcome.

Again, it was fun to talk with you.

Sincerely,

John W. Adams

*Ash Wormser*



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

*6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105*

May 11, 1979

Mr. John W. Adams  
Adams, Harkness & Hill, Inc.  
55 Court Street  
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Mr. Adams:

Thank you so much for your letter. I am enclosing some tidbits of information which you may already have, but which may be of minor help.

One of the intriguing items in your letter is that you said you were enclosing a want list and that was not enclosed.

With respect to your need for information I presume you have asked people like Walter Breen, Abe Kosoff, Charles Wormser, Norman Stack, etc.

I look forward to meeting you.

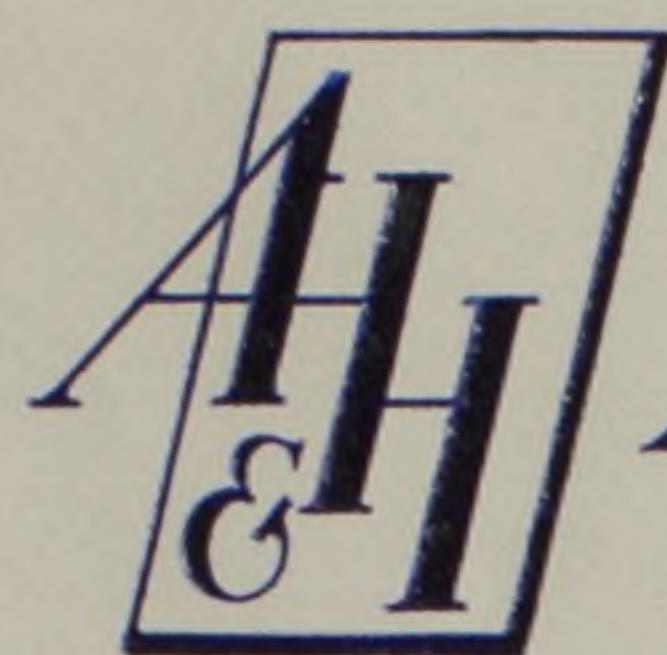
Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

Encl.





*Adams, Harkness & Hill, inc.*

MEMBER: NEW YORK, BOSTON AND AMERICAN (ASSOC.) STOCK EXCHANGES

55 COURT STREET

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

May 29, 1979

Mr. Eric Newman  
P. O. Box 14020  
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

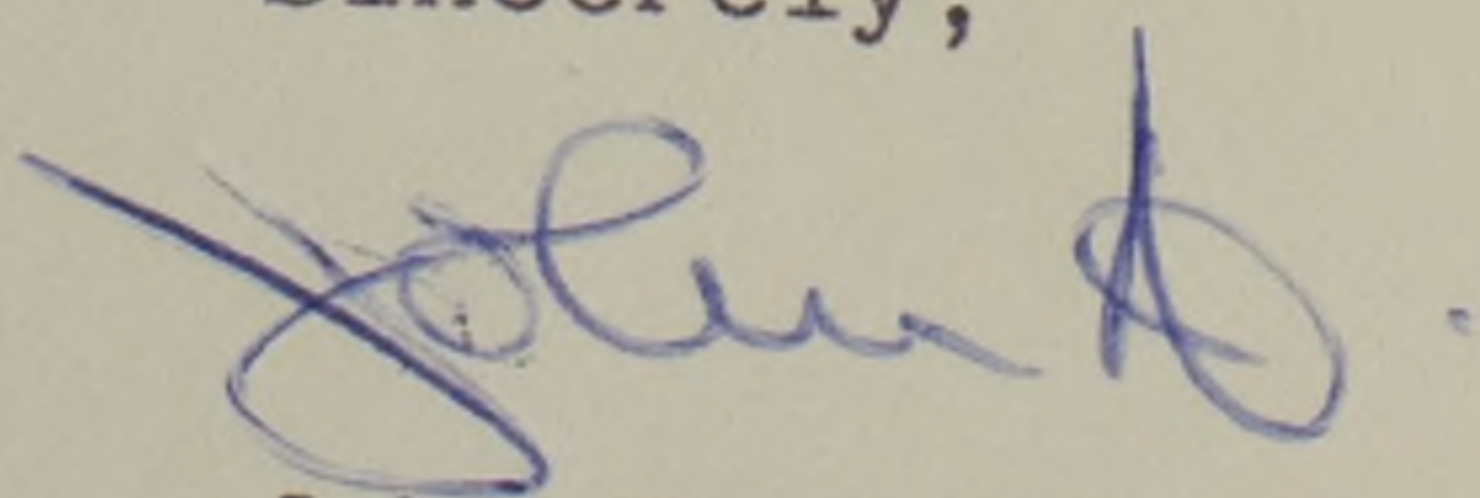
Dear Mr. Newman:

I much appreciate your information on the four mystery cent collectors. My status of ignorance is as follows:

1. Wurtzbach had several cent collections, ranging from the one he sold Brand in 1919 to those handled by Bluestone in the 1940s. It is not clear just what was in any of them.
2. True, Maris sold most of his numismatic chattels in the 1886 auction sale; however, his beloved 1794 variety set was sold privately -- when and to whom?
3. Collins ended up not by passing his collection on to his son but, rather by selling it to Mehl. Mehl improved something that was already very good and then either took it with him to the grave or sold it very quietly.
4. The Ellsworth material was handled by Wayte Raymond with John Garrett as his angel. Tantalizingly, an inventory of the whole collection is on file at Evergreen House -- everything, that is, except for the large cents.

Enough of my problems. I have talked to the gentlemen you named, save for Harvey Stack who I have always found to be tough with an answer. Again, my thanks for your interest. Also -- and I will remember it this time -- enclosed is my want list.

Sincerely,

  
John W. Adams

JWA/md  
enc.



John W. Adams

WANT LIST - Auction Catalog

Edw Cogan: 3/7/59, 5/21/59, 10/28/59, 11/27/74 - 2P

Geo Cogan: 1/29/83 - 2P, 4/12/83 - 4P

W.E. Woodward: 7/31/60, 1/8/84 - 3P, 5/26/84 - 4P, 5/21/88 - 12P, 3/63  
+ #57 (missing) 4/27/86 - 2P, Separate

Chapman's: 5/14/85 - 3P  
10/19/86, 12/13/86 - 9P, 2/17/86, 12/22/89, 6/1/91, 5/7/93, 4/5/92 - 5P, 7/1/02, 4/19/05 - 5P, 10/22/09, 4/22/11, 1/18/13  
11/17/13 - 8P, 12/20/16, 3/14/17, 3/16/17, 6/28/17, 5/27/21 - 3P, 8/16/24

NY Coin 6/9/03, 11/27/03, 4/22/04

Bangs post 1875: 11/16/78, 1/17/80, 7/29/80, 2/29/84, 4/20/85

Hubbe " " : 1/22/79, 2/11/85, 12/12/95, 5/2/99, 10/28/01, 1/23/06, 12/18/07

Birds " " : 7/17/79, 3/30/91

Lynnton: 6/27/87, 7/8/02, 12/18/07, 9/4/08, 12/16/08, 1/19/09, 1/17/10,  
12/12/13, 12/18/13, 6/21/15, 5/25/20, 6/11/21

Thomas Elder: 10/16/13, 1/31/14, 6/23/14, 8/25/15, 1/22/16, 2/5/16, 2/26/16  
3/11/16, 4/7/16, 4/22/16, 5/6/16, 5/20/16, 6/16/16, 7/8/16, 10/13/16, 11/23/16  
12/4/16, 12/16/16, 3/9/17, 4/27/17, 6/29/17, 8/11/17, 12/6/18, 1/30/19,  
2/21/19, 6/6/19, 7/18/19, 9/4/19, 10/13/19, 2/12/20, 3/13/20, 4/30/20 (-14P)  
7/9/20 (-13P), 2/23/21 (-19P), 11/18/21, 2/3/22, 3/17/22, 6/1/22, 10/26/22, 12/8/22  
5/25/27, 10/7/27, 2/2/28, 4/2/28, 5/23/30, 1/16/31, 6/8/31, 9/19/31,  
5/11/34, 3/6/36, 9/17/36, 9/24/37, 9/17/38, 11/20/30 = ~~scribble~~

B Max Hodel 11/15/06, 3/14/08, 6/4/08, 11/11/08, 6/11/10, 3/11/11, 4/15/13, 5/19/13  
10/30/13, 6/30/14, 7/14/14, 1/30/15, 5/26/15, 2/29/16, 2/27/17, 6/12/17, 7/24/17, 12/12/17  
3/12/18, 7/17/18, 10/29/18, 12/18/18, 2/18/19, 5/14/19, 3/10/20, 6/22/20, 11/23/20, 11/22/21

H.G. Sampson - 2/12/84, 10/21/85, 5/19/86, 7/15/86

H.P. Smith - 3/16/83 - 2P, 7/12/83 - 2P

J.W. Hordtine - 4/6/82, 1/11/84

Dr. Massare - 6/29/81

Mason & Co - 5/19/70

W.H. Strobbridge - 1855, 6/18/74, 12/17/75, 4/25/79



Steigerwald: 8/5/81, 5/23/82, 8/1/82, 3/28/83, 12/22/83, 6/18/84,  
7/15/91, 11/24/96, 4/22/97. FP 2's: 21, 23, 28-32, 35, 37, 39, 40-44,  
47-49, 51, 52

Ed Frossard : 2/28/82-1P, 11/25/82-3P, 10/12/83, 10/23/84, 5/20/86,  
<sup>78B</sup> <sup>99</sup> <sup>57</sup> <sup>60</sup> <sup>66</sup>  
 5/29/86, 12/13/86, 6/24/87, 2/21/90, 12/24/89-1P, 7/29/86, 11/27/86, 2/17/87,  
<sup>67</sup> <sup>78A</sup> <sup>Starling</sup>  
 3/17/87, 5/12/87, 9/27/88 + Nos 87, 88, 100, 128 & 137, 10/16/91 = pen

In addition <sup>to</sup> the the above, there are many small periodicals, must directors' reports etc. where I am looking for a few issues here and there.



file John Adams.



*Adams, Harkness & Hill, inc.*

MEMBER: NEW YORK AND AMERICAN (ASSOC.) STOCK EXCHANGES

55 COURT STREET

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

(617) 227-5500

TELEX • 940515 ADAMS BSN

November 18, 1982

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

Thanks for your thoughtful citation on a second edition of Attinelli. As you doubtless know, EJA was then embarked on a career in medicine and never did return to center stage in numismatics. His loss to the hobby at such an early age is a great pity, given the tremendous energy which he lavished on his initial project. Few authors create such a high percentage of the rarities which they chronicle.

Best,



John W. Adams

June 9, 1997

Dear John:

I wish I could be of more help to you on your Indian Peace Medal project for the English period, but I never collected or studied this particular material.

In researching early United States Indian Peace Medals I became familiar with a very large collection which is not well known. It is held by

Denver Museum of Natural History  
2001 Colorado Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80205-5798  
Tel: 303 370 6387  
Fax: 303 331 6492

Robert B. Pickering, Ph. D., is chairman of the Anthropology Department which holds it.

It was assembled by Mr. & Mrs. Crane, residents of Florida, and collected during the 1960s on the east coast and given to the museum at the end of their lives.

I hope this is helpful.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Mr. John W. Adams  
Adams, Harkness, & Hill  
1 Liberty Square  
Boston, MA 02109

February 12, 1999

Dear John:

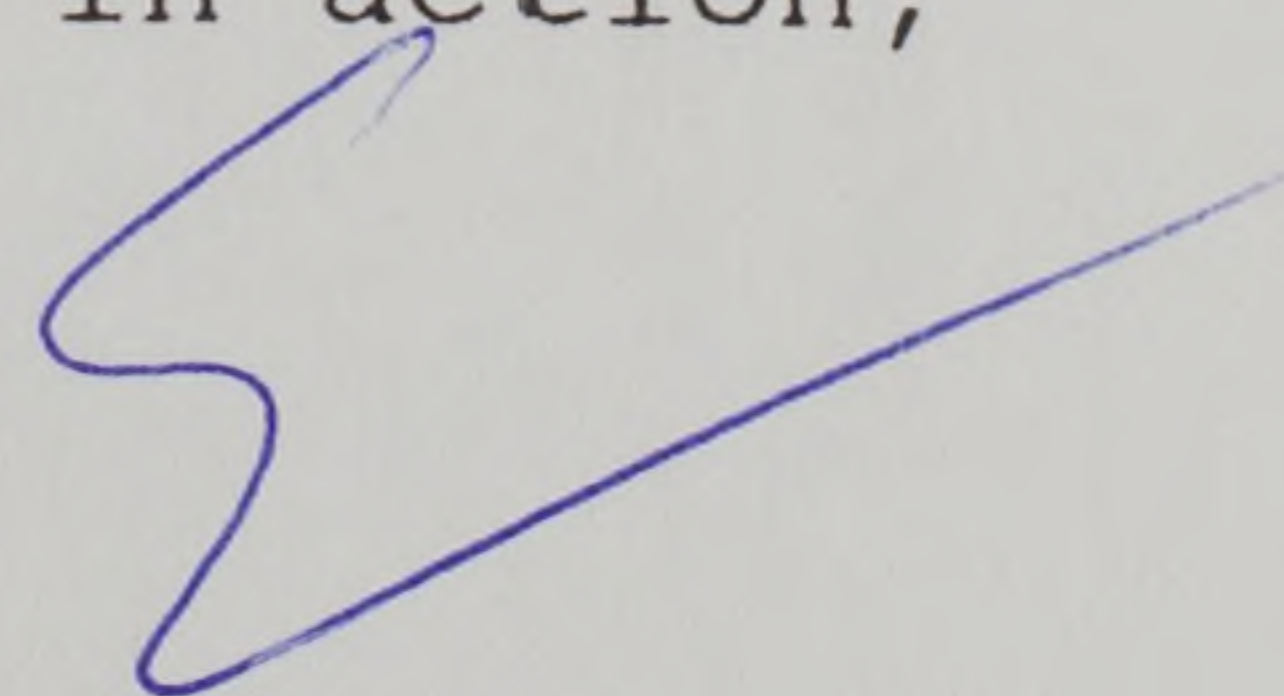
After your telephone request for information as to the deposition of Harley Freeman's medals after his death I checked my files. I have an extensive correspondence with him over 30 years from 1943 through 1973 but all of this is during his lifetime.

The only memory I have as to medals is that he might have been the one who acquired from B.G. Johnson two Spanish medals allegedly relating to Florida. These were in the Waldo Newcomer collection and were bought by E.H.R. Green. I acquired them with Johnson as part of the Green American Colonial holdings. I can look up the description in the Newcomer inventory if you need it, but you probably know all about them already.

Good luck on your forthcoming book and if I can be of further help I will be glad to try.

I just finished a book on U.S. Coin Scales and Counterfeit Coin Detectors with George Mallis as coauthor. It was a tedious but fascinating project.

Keep in action,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Eric P. Newman', with a stylized, sweeping flourish.

Eric P. Newman



Adams, Harkness & Hill, Inc.

AH&H

March 8, 1999

Mr. Eric P. Newman  
Numismatic Education Society  
6450 Cecil Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric,

You are truly a fountain of information. I would be most curious about the Newcomer Inventory's description of these two Florida pieces—particularly the provenance. I will try to track down your other lead on the 1977 auction.

My book is printed but, because I needed 300 line screen quality, the plates are being done separately. These should be finished in a couple of weeks after which binding can begin. April publication? I hope so.

Profuse thanks for your help.

Sincerely,



John W. Adams

JWA/tmf



ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

*6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105*

To: John W. Adams  
Adams, Harkness & Hill  
60 State St.  
Boston, MA 02109

March 26, 1999

From: Eric P. Newman

I hope you have found the 1977 auction sale of Freeman's material by now.

As you requested I am enclosing a copy of one page of the Mehl listing of the Florida tokens in the Waldo Newcomer colonial coin collection. This listing has never been published or circulated to my knowledge. Mehl sent Johnson a copy at my suggestion about 1940.

Your new book ought to give you great satisfaction as your other publications have done. This summer I am teaching at the ANA Summer School in Colorado Springs and at the ANS Graduate Seminar in New York. Numismatic research seems to keep one full of vigor so don't ever quit.



Dear Eric,

4/1/99

Excuse the stationery - I am writing on an airplane.

Your information on the Florida pieces was most helpful. It is unlikely to be a coincidence that two 1760s Florida proclamations of different design show up in the Benjamin Belts sale (1898) and the Skilton Sale (1925). No doubt Mr. Newcomer bought them at the latter, and they have been handed along to posterity as a semi-matched pair, both before and since.

Thus, your library adds a link in a distinguished provenance. Now, can your fertile mind answer this riddle: why did the governor of Florida in 1760 execute two designs and, of even greater curiosity, why did he employ two methods of manufacture (striking and casting)? Because the casts are not made from any known piece that was struck, there is no obvious reason to doubt them.

You have been most generous in taking the time to respond, for which my profuse thanks.

Sincerely, John

Adams



## ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

*6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105*

John Adams  
Adams, Harkness & Hill  
60 State St.  
Boston, MA 02109

April 12, 1999

Dear John:

Your April 1, 1999 letter (April fool) is easy to answer.

I never thought either so called Florida piece had anything to do with the territory, district or province of Florida. That is why I didn't keep them for my collection. Florida is just a Spanish word or name which I was unable to identify.

Please try to find the source.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman



John W. Adams  
Adams, Harkness & Hill Inc.

September 7, 1999

Dear John:

I have begun to study your new book on George III Indian Peace Medals, The clarity of expression matches the clarity of the type. I like its well coordinated historical and numismatic significance.

I also received your August 31, 1999 letter commenting on the Buttrey monograph.

As I told you in our conversation before you wrote it the Buttrey citations to the two volumes you wrote on U.S. numismatic auction catalogs indicates how important your detailed work on such sales is.

I realize that you did not attend the Chicago "debate" and that may have been a wise happenstance.

As to the Buttrey monograph you point out your disappointment at statements made on page 102 but you did not mention footnote 19 on page 99. These might have been better interlocked.

You refer to Buttrey's opinion on page 99 and that Hodder's research and a book soon to be published contradict that opinion. Hodder's research will soon be published by ANS and hopefully the new book by the mining engineer will be completed and published. Perhaps the situation can be better evaluated after readers can digest information after it is published.

By all means keep analyzing and thinking about the matter.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman



Subj: **RE: Proposed telephone interview**  
Date: 12/8/2008 10:06:35 AM Central Standard Time  
From: [REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED]  
CC: [REDACTED]

Good morning, Eric - I put together a list of possible topics for an interview as follows:

- Performing research: how does one select and shape a topic
- That magic epiphany when a research project comes together, can you share one or two such moments in your own very fertile experience ?
- Maintaining research files: how to collect and organize
- What non-numismatic books/sources have you found helpful
- Storage and conservation of copper and silver pieces
- What museums, home and abroad, have noteworthy U.S. content
- What would medal collectors find of the most interest at your museum ?
- How can specialist organizations such as Medal Collectors of America advance the hobby in general ?
- You have seen the colonial field go from relative obscurity to tremendous popularity. Is this a change to which we medal collectors should aspire or are we better off in a backwater ?

John Sallay and I would welcome your comments on any or all of the above. Please let us know your own preference and, if you are generally favorable, give me a time or two in the next week when we could call you up.

My very best, John

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**From:** EricNumis@aol.com [mailto:EricNumis@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, December 05, 2008 12:12 PM  
**To:** jsallay@comcast.net  
**Cc:** Adams, John; Numislit@aol.com  
**Subject:** Proposed telephone interview

Dear interviewers:

I have been reviewing all the encouragement you are giving me about the interview. If you still want to do it I have a suggestion which will make it shorter and more concise.

I think it would be best to have you develop a list of the topics you would like me to comment upon so that I can be better prepared to answer and be more precise. I can then think about these topics in advance.

If you agree with me please improve the idea.                      Thanks                      Eric

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Subj: **Re: EPN**  
Date: 4/17/2013 11:55:04 A.M. Central Daylight Time  
From: [REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED]

John If I have not previously consented to your requested use of my 1963 Coin World article then this is a new consent. My best Eric

In a message dated 4/6/2013 1:00:24 P.M. Central Daylight Time, JAdams@canaccordgenuity.com writes:

Good afternoon, Eric - The article I have in mind is "More Collectors Reveals the Need for More Literature", published in the 11/8/63 issue of Coin World. Time does fly ! Are you OK with this ?  
My very best, John

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**From:** David Bowers [qdbarchive@metrocast.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 06, 2013 10:41 AM  
**To:** EricNumis@aol.com  
**Cc:** Adams, John  
**Subject:** FW: EPN

Dear Eric!

This is for you! Lovely day here in NH. Hope ditto in St. Louis. Say hi to Evelyn.

Dear John!

Here you go!

-

Best to both of you,

DAVE B

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**From:** Adams, John [mailto:JAdams@canaccordgenuity.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 06, 2013 11:56 AM  
**To:** qdbarchive@metrocast.net  
**Subject:** EPN

Good morning, Dave - We (The Asylum) would like to reprint an article that Eric wrote on numismatic literature 50 years ago. Do you have his e-mail ? Many thanks, John

P.S. And how are you ? I miss you enough to contemplate venturing forth to Wolfeboro...



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